

March 11, 2014

Co-Chair Paul R. Doyle

Co-Chair David A. Baram

Senator Kevin D. Witkos

Representative Dan Carter

General Law Committee:

I am writing this in strong opposition to the proposed SB 299. We have operated a family-owned heating oil and HVAC company in Monroe that my grandfather founded over 90 years ago. We have always operated in a very financially-sound and conservative manner. We also carefully hedge or protect all of our pre-paid consumer oil contracts as well as all of our other consumer pricing programs. We utilize the latest hedging management system which allows us to procure the proper wet oil contracts and options for all of our pricing programs. We have always complied with the current reporting requirements by the Department of Consumer Protection to show that we provide wholesale contracts for all pre-paid consumer oil contracts. The proposed fee of \$3,900.00 followed by annual fees of \$500.00 would be an incredibly unfair additional tax burden on law-abiding and responsible heating oil dealers such as ourselves. It would increase our operating costs and provide an unfair advantage to competing energy fuels. This bill would penalize all of the responsible and law-abiding heating oil dealers because of a dealer who has broken the law. Again, we strongly urge you to oppose this bill.

Please oppose S.B. 299, AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PREPAID CONSUMER HEATING FUEL CONTRACT GUARANTY FUND.

Sincerely,

David B. Sippin

President

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